

Application No. 10/593,972
Reply to Office Action of

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The amendment to Claim 1 and newly-added Claims 10-18 are supported by the specification, particularly page 28. Accordingly, no new matter is believed to have been added to the present application by the amendments submitted above.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-18 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a negative radiation-sensitive resin composition comprising (A) a polymer containing structural units represented by formula (1) and/or formula (2), (B) a compound having at least one ethylenically unsaturated double bond, and (C) a radiation-sensitive radical polymerization initiator. See Claim 1. An important feature is that initiator (C) is at least one of acylphosphine oxides, 2,2-dimethoxyl-1,2-diphenylethane-1-one, benzyl dimethyl ketal, benzyl- β -methoxyethyl acetal, 1-phenyl-1,2-propanedione-2-(o-ethoxycarbonyl) oxime and 2,2'-bis(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4,5,4',5'-tetraphenyl-1-2'-bisimidazole. As described in the specification, using the claimed composition, the bottom of a radiation-sensitive resin film formed with the composition is sufficiently cured, even when the film thickness is greater than 50 μm .

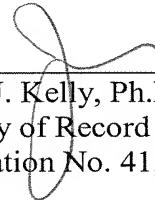
The rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) or §103(a) based on Shimizu, Komano, Danielson et al., Konica Corp. and Sasa et al. as set forth at paragraphs 2-9 of the Office Action are respectfully traversed. None of the references disclose or suggest the use of the specified radiation-sensitive radical polymerization initiator (C) of the claimed negative radiation-sensitive resin composition. For that reason, those references, alone or in combination, cannot suggest that the bottom of a radiation-sensitive resin film formed with the composition is sufficiently cured, even when the film thickness is greater than 50 μm .

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In view of the foregoing, the claimed composition is neither anticipated by nor obvious over the cited references. Accordingly, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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